M 32/989

Out-of-print map reproduction

National Mapping Program

Out-Of-Print Maps

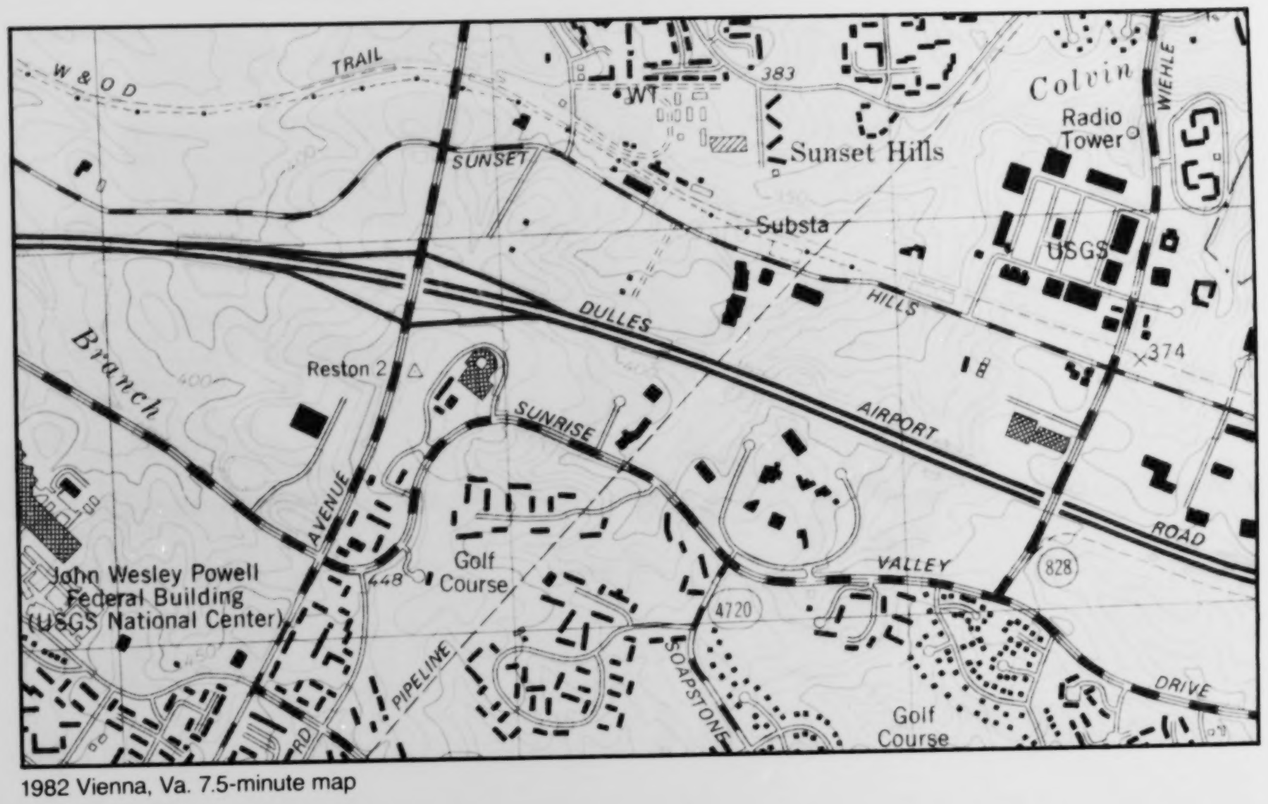
Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Earth Science
Information Center (ESIC)

Thank you for your map inquiry. The map you are interested in is out of print. However, we may be able to provide you with a paper reproduction or a microfilm copy.

Like just about anything else, maps become out of date over time. The U.S. Geological Survey attempts to insure that its maps are up to date, accurate, complete, and suitable for use. Generally, only the most current map of an area is still in print.

Maps that are out of date, however, can be useful to historians, attorneys, environmental action groups, genealogists, and others interested in researching the development of a particular area. A succession of such maps can provide a vivid picture of a locality's course of development.

Recognizing the value of the information contained on older maps, the U.S. Geological Survey preserves out-of-print maps on microfilm. In this way, the Survey can limit its vast inventory to the most current maps, yet still be able to provide copies of older maps.

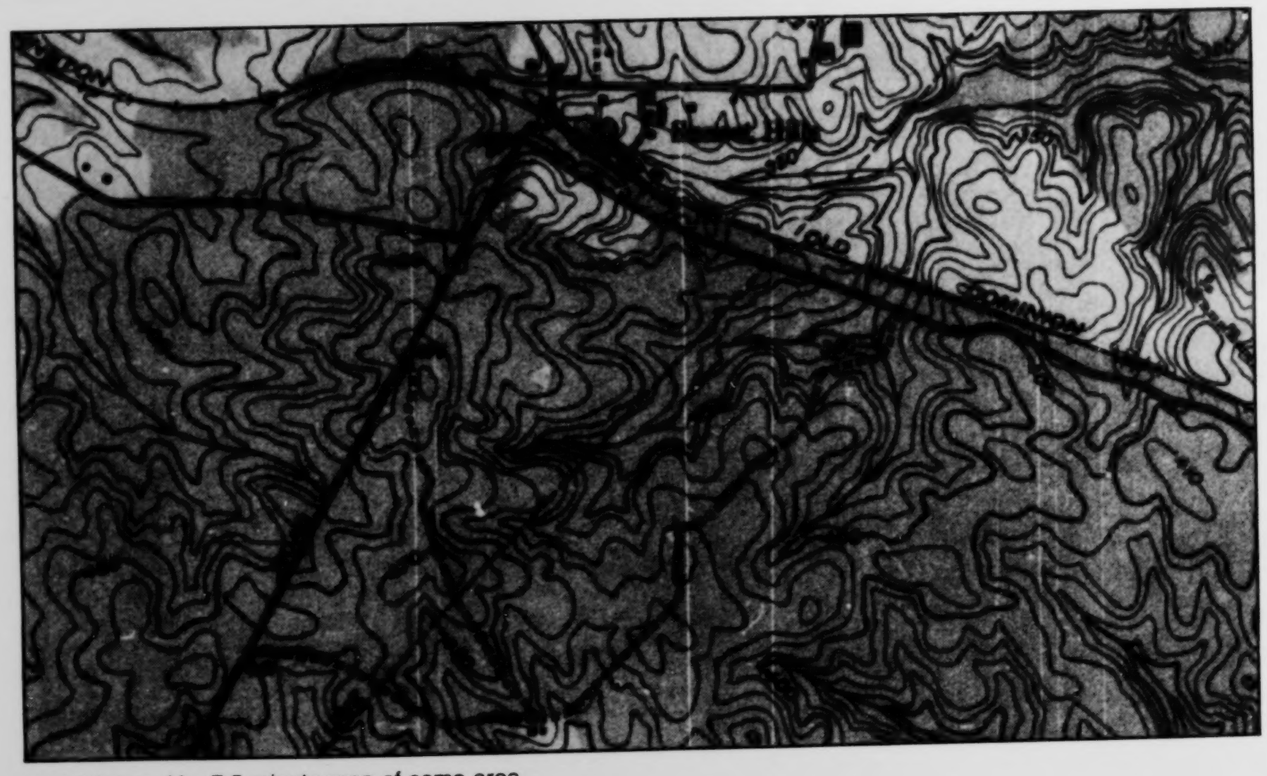


1982 Vienna, Va. 7.5-minute map

Microfilms of Out-of-Print Maps

Using photographic techniques, microfilm copies of original maps are made and retained on very high-quality (archival) 35-mm film. An enlargement made from this microfilm, however, is not of the same quality as the original. A slight shrinkage in size occurs; this causes the scale, or units of measurement of the map, to be slightly distorted relative to the original map. However, the bar scale for measuring distances remains true within the reproduction, so that the positions of all features are correct in relation to each other.

The sharpness of the reproduction also depends on the condition of the original map. Some older maps may have faded or suffered other reductions in quality before they were microfilmed.



1951 Vienna, Va. 7.5-minute map of same area

I 19.80:

Paper Reproductions

You can order a black-and-white paper reproduction of an out-of-print map from the U.S. Geological Survey. These prints are reasonably legible, although they are seldom as clear and sharp as the original map.

The Survey uses a process that reproduces shaded areas on the original in various shades of gray on the copy. One disadvantage of this "continuous tone" reproduction process is that lines drawn in shaded areas on the original may be hidden by the gray tint of the copy. Another consideration is that the paper used in this process is sensitive to light, which means the print will eventually fade. If high resolution of detail or long print life are not required, however, this reproduction should meet most users' needs.

Film Copies

You can also order duplicate microfilm rolls of the out-of-print maps held in our files. In this case, the U.S. Geological Survey will send you a roll of microfilm containing the frame of the map of your choice. The microfilm roll will fit most standard 35-mm readers.

Two kinds of film copies are available:

- Diazo. A commonly used type of microfilm, diazo is easily handled and stored, resists scratching, but will eventually fade. It is inexpensive compared with other kinds of microfilm.
- Silver halide emulsion. This high-quality microfilm is used by the U.S. Geological Survey for its own files. This film is very durable if kept in a controlled temperature and humidity environment, but the emulsion is easily scratched through use.

Copies of the maps stored on these microfilm rolls can be made by a 35-mm reader/printer or through the photographic enlargement and printing process. Although relatively expensive, the precision of the photographic enlargement procedure results in higher quality prints than the paper reproductions. The difference in quality is not great enough, however, to matter for many uses. For microfilm ordering information please contact the address on the order form below.

Finding the Map You Want

Based on your inquiry, we researched our files and located one or more maps that cover the area of interest to you. A form showing the results of our research follows.

Research and Order Form

Out-of-Print Map Reproductions

Thank you for your map order.

Maps of the area you are interested in are marked on the enclosed index and listed below. These maps are now out of print but we can prepare black-and-white paper reproductions of our file copies for you.

If you want to order reproductions of any of the maps listed, please complete this form by circling the map titles you are interested in, filling in the ordering information, and returning the form to:

Earth Science Information Center
U.S. Geological Survey
507 National Center
Reston, Virginia 22092
Telephone: 703/860-6045

Each reproduction costs $12 and the total order must be prepaid by a check or money order made out to the U.S. Geological Survey. Your order will take between 2 and 3 weeks to fill.

Name _____ ESIC Control Number _____

Address _____

Telephone (res.) _____ Remittance Received _____

(day) _____

Map Name	State	Scale	Dates: Survey	Dates: Edition	Dates: Reprint	Microfilm Storage: Roll	Microfilm Storage: Frame

Remarks

1989